

Please amend page 1, last paragraph as follows:

Compounds of formula (I), wherein R1 and R2 are defined as under formula (I) and R is $\text{CH}(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_4\text{ alkyl})_6$ $\text{CH}(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_4\text{ alkyl})_2$, whereby the two C₂-C₆ alkyl radicals are identical and branched or preferably unbranched, are new compounds and represent a preferred object of the present invention.

Please amend page 17, first paragraph as follows:

In-vivo comparison on dogs in respect of the anti-tick action of 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxyethyl)-amide according to the present invention with ~~[[DEED]]~~ DEET (in the form of ~~Parapic-Deg®~~ PARAPIC DOG® (a tick repellent containing DEET)) following spray application.

Please amend page 17, paragraphs 4-7 as follows:

Inventive composition of the 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxyethyl)-amide spray: active substance: 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxyethyl)-amide 4.5%; ~~Pluronic F6®~~ PLURONIC F6® (a block copolymer surfactant) 2.0%; water 10.0%, isopropanol ad 100.0%.

~~Pluronic®~~ PLURONIC® is a non-ionic surface-active substance (surfactant) consisting of the block copolymers of propylene oxide and ethylene oxide.

The aim of the test is to make a comparison, under natural conditions, of the commercially available anti-vermin product ~~Parapic-Deg®~~ PARAPIC DOG® with a typical representative of a compound of formula (I), namely 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxyethyl)-amide. According to the packaging information one should reach with ~~Parapic-Deg®~~ PARAPIC DOG® an 80% anti-tick protection over a period of 48 hours. The active ingredient of ~~Parapic-Deg®~~ is DEET PARAPIC DOG® is DEET, which is the chemical substance N,N-Diethyl-3-methylbenzamide. Products based on the active ingredient DEET, such as ~~Parapic-Deg®~~ PARAPIC DOG® are widely used against ticks on dogs and cats, and also on humans. Actually, the majority of the currently used anti-tick products is based on DEET, and the mostly used product in dogs is said ~~Parapic Deg®~~ PARAPIC DOG®.

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Test Protocol: Twelve dogs are divided into groups of 4. To distinguish them, each dog is given a numbered label. Group 1 is treated with a 4.5% 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amide spray (3645mg a.i./m²). Group 2 is treated with Parapic Dog®-Spray PARAPIC DOG®-Spray (20% [[DEED]] DEET / 3645mg a.i./m²). Group 3 remains untreated and serves as a control.

All twelve dogs are taken on 3 successive days to a wooded plot infected with ticks of the genus *Ixodes ricinus* and are left to run around there. They are free to move around there for

Please amend page 18, second to last paragraph as follows:

The comparison shows that the substance 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amide according to the present invention is vastly superior to [[DEED]] DEET which is used most frequently at the present time. 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amide according to the present invention leads in the course of 3 successive days to very good results, while the activity of [[DEED]] DEET drops abruptly after 2 days.

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